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REPLY UNDER 1.116 | CEAPEDITED PROCEDURE CEAMINING GROUP 2676 PATENT 1163-0380P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Toyoaki KITANO et al.

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MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 15, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Office Action dated April 22, 2004, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This Paper includes:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper; and

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.